

Methodist Episcopal Church
Southeast corner of Colorado and S. Sixth Sts.
Corinne
Box Elder County
Utah

HABS No. U-40

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Location: Southeast corner of Colorado and South Sixth
Streets, Corinne, Box Elder County, Utah.
Geographic Location Code: 43-0300-003
Latitude: 41° 32' 51" N Longitude: 112° 6' 40" W

Present Owner: Board of Home Missions of Methodist-Episcopal
Church

Present Occupant: Vacant

Statement of
Significance: This was the first Methodist-Episcopal Church
erected and dedicated in Utah.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History:

1. Original and subsequent owners:

Mark A. & Lovina R. Gilmore, 1869
Ovando J. Hollister, 1869
Gusten M. Pierce & Micaja T. Burgess & Clausen,
Trustees, etc.

(Following description in Book of Abstracts):

"Said lot conveyed on condition as follows:
In trust that said premises shall be used,
kept, maintained and disposed of as a place
of Divine Worship for the use of the Ministry
of Membership of the Methodist-Episcopal Church
of the USA subject to the disciplinary usage
and ministerial appointments of said church as
from time to time authorized and declared by
the General Conference in whose bounds said
premises are situate.

Acknowledged before Joseph B. Cass, N. P.
Arapahoe Co, Colorado, also A. S. Gould,
N. P., Salt Lake Co."

(Description: Corinne Plat A., NW1/4 Sec. 6
TP9N R2W, Block 206, Lot 6.)

2. Date of erection: 1870

3. Architect: Unknown

B. Historical Events and Persons Associated with the Building:

This church is the first Methodist-Episcopal church erected and dedicated in Utah. (There was an Episcopal Church erected one block west of the present structure which was the first Protestant Church in the state, but this has long since disappeared). The superintendent of the Methodist Mission in Utah, Rev. G. M. Pierce, delivered his first sermon in Corinne, June 15, 1870. Bishop Aimes, Chaplain C. C. McCabe and Rev. Pierce held services on July 17, 1870 in the Opera House and started a subscription for the new church. Eleven hundred dollars was quickly subscribed that day, and four hundred fifty dollars the next. On July 18 a site was purchased; plans were drawn up for the building, and on July 26 the contract was let for construction. The new church was dedicated by Chaplain McCabe and Rev. Pierce on September 20, 1870. The building cost was four thousand dollars. When Corinne lost its strategic position as the headquarters of northwest freighting after construction of the Utah Northern and Oregon Short Line railroads, the economy faltered and the population rapidly diminished to its present size. Lack of sufficient population to support the church resulted in its closing and abandonment.

C. Sources of Information:

1. Primary and unpublished sources:

Abstracts of Deeds, Box Elder County, County
Courthouse, Brigham City, Utah.

Sanborn Map of Corinne, Utah, 1890, Utah Room,
University of Utah Library.

2. Bibliography:

Anderson, Bernice Gibbs, Corinne, The City of the
Ungodly.

Merkel, Henry M., History of Methodism in Utah,
1938 (photo, p. 147).

Tullidges Quarterly Magazine, Volume 1, 1880-81,
Page 246, University of Utah Library

Prepared by John L. Giusti, AIA
September 5, 1967

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

1. Architectural interest: The oldest remaining non-Mormon church in Utah, built in 1870.
2. Condition of fabric: Fair - windows are broken, roof needs new shingles and large pieces of wall-paper are loose.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Over-all dimensions: The church is a one-story rectangle, 26'10" x 50'4" three bays in length, with a projecting entrance vestibule.
2. Foundations: Battered concrete, not original.
3. Wall construction, finish and color: Salmon buff brick laid in common bond. Headers every seventh course.
4. Structural system, framing: Brick masonry bearing walls and wood framed roof.
5. Porches and stoops: The wood frame vestibule is a later addition.
6. Chimneys: One at the northeast in the east wall, one at the southwest in the west wall. To serve the two stoves.
7. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The front entrance is a Gothic arch with a pair of doors under a glass transom bordered with tiny square panes in wood muntins. There is no other entrance or exit.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Double hung windows in lancet openings glazed with obscure glass. Three windows on each side and one on each side of the entrance door on the north.

8. Roof:

- a. Shape, covering: Gable with wood shingles.
- b. Cornice: Very simply made of rectangular boards without other moldings.
- c. Tower: A small louvered wooden belfry is of construction similar to the vestibule and is probably of the same date.

C. Description of Interior:

1. Floor plans: There is a single rectangular room with a platform one step above the floor at the south end opposite the entrance at the north.
2. Flooring: Diagonal wood boards meet in a "V" concealed by the aisle carpet.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Wallpaper on plaster over masonry walls and wood lath ceiling.
4. Lighting, type of fixtures: Pendant electric fixtures, each with five glass shaded bulbs.
5. Heating: There is a cast iron stove in the northeast corner and a porcelain-enameled stove in the southwest corner.

D. Site and Surroundings:

1. Orientation: The church faces Colorado Street on the north, 6th Street runs along the west property line.
2. Landscaping and walks, enclosures: Concrete steps and walk lead from street to entrance.

Prepared by Paul Goeldner, AIA
Supervisory Architect
Utah Project
September 2, 1967

PART III. PROJECT INFORMATION

This record is part of a Utah Survey conducted in the summers of 1967 and 1968 under joint sponsorship of the Historic American

Buildings Survey of the Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation of the National Park Service and Utah Heritage Foundation.

Field work, historic research and record drawings were done under the direction of Project Supervisor Paul Goeldner, AIA (Texas Tech University) assisted by Project Historian John L. Giusti, AIA (University of Utah). Photographs were made by P. Kent Fairbanks of Salt Lake City.

Student Assistant Architects on the 1967 team were Robert M. Swanson and Charles W. Barrow, (University of Texas) and Kenneth L. Lambert and Keith Sorenson, (University of Utah). 1968 Student Assistant Architects were Keith Sorenson, Charles D. Harker and Robert Schriever, (University of Utah), and Donald G. Prycer, (Texas A. & M. University).